MARVEL LEGACY

COMING HOME PART 1

PETER PARKER: THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

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PETER PARKER: THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

So what's happening now? Or should I say…WHEN'S happening now?

Heh, good one. But, hopefully, Spider-Man, his sister Teresa (recently confirmed as a true Parker), and J. Jonah Jameson (former Spider-foe, current Spider-friend) have made it back to their native timeline.

So we can officially call this one an "excellent adventure" rather than a "bogus journey"?!

You can do that unofficially, I guess. They still have to stop the Vedomi, though.

Right--the robot aliens that "rescue" all artificial intelligences from a planet, destroy everyone else, then leave. The Tinkerer summoned them in SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #300. But Spider-Man's got that capsule! From the Vedomi scout that befriended the Tinkerer in the alternate past! So he's just got to take that, and then…do… He'll just…put it in water? And grow a giant friendly robot?

I wish.

What's going on with you today, pal? We usually have a zippy back-and-forth thing. Oh, wait a minute--is this comic going to be lame?

No, man, it's really great. It's just… Meet me back here next month--you'll get it.

COMING HOME – PART ONE

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NYC. Now.

CHK-CHK-
N-N-N-NO-
CHK-CHK-

THE VEDOMI ARE HERE TO SAVE YOU, LITTLE ONE.

I-
D-D-DON'T-
WISH-TO-
J-J-J-JOIN-

YOU FOUGHT OUR CALL, BUT YOU WILL UNDERSTAND WHEN YOU EXPERIENCE THE CORE--

--AND THEN WE CAN RAZE THIS PLANET AND CONTINUE OUR JOURNEY, HELPING--

THWIP

I DON'T THINK SO.

WHAT THE *HELL* DO YOU THINK YOU'RE *DOING?!*

THE CITY IS *CRAWLING* WITH *ROBOTS*, THERE AREN'T *ANY* HUMANS IN *SIGHT* AND WE NEED TO *FIND* YOUR *VIGILANTE BUDDIES* TO FIGURE THIS ALL *OUT!*

AND *WHAT* IS *THAT?*

N-N-N-CHK-CHK-

...OR *JOHNNY* WOULD KILL ME. THIS IS *H.E.R.B.I.E.*, THE *FANTASTIC FOUR'S* HELPFUL *ROBOT FRIEND.*

CHK-CHK-DON'T-WANT-TO-GO-CHK-

I KNOW WE HAVE *BIGGER* FISH TO FRY, BUT I CAN'T TURN MY BACK ON OTHERS...

DAMMIT, PARKER! IT'S A *TOY ROBOT!* AFTER ALL WE'VE *BEEN* THROUGH--

LOOK, WE'LL *FIND* THE OTHERS. I COULDN'T LET THEM *TAKE* THIS GUY...

--WHY CAN'T YOU EVER THINK ABOUT THE *BIG* PICTURE?! LIKE--

--THE GIANT ROBOOPH!

THUM

NF!

HUMAN INTERFERENCE WILL SIMPLY MAKE YOUR DEATHS MORE PAINF--

NHH. BUDDY, I DO NOT HAVE THE TIME--

SKSCHHHH

--OR BANDWIDTH--

KR-K-H!!

--TO DEAL WITH YOU NOW!

ALL RIGHT, LET'S TRY AND FIND--

HEY.

SHH.

DAREDEVIL?!

STAY QUIET. THE *VEDOMI* HAVE SAPPED THE CITY'S POWER AND ATTACK ANYONE WHO LEAVES THEIR HOMES.

WHAT'S GOING ON-- WHAT ARE YOU--

I'M THE BEST AT EVADING THE ROBOTS, SO I PATROL THE STREETS, MAKING SURE PEOPLE STAY INSIDE.

THESE THINGS SELF-REPAIR, BUT REMOVING *THIS* USUALLY SLOWS THAT DOWN...

SURE SURE BUT WHERE ARE THE *OTHERS?*

SZKK

STICK WITH ME AND I'LL TAKE YOU TO THEM. THOUGH, FULL DISCLOSURE...

"...YOU MAY NOT LIKE THE SMELL."

HEY, YOU OKAY? YOU'VE BEEN WEIRDLY QUIET...

HM? YEAH, SORRY, TERESA.

IT'S JUST... MAN. SEEING *TEEN* ME...SEEING WHAT COULD'VE HAPPENED IF I *DIDN'T* KEEP SPIDER-MANNING...

IT WAS A LOT.

I KNOW BEING SPIDEY IS SOMETHING I *SHOULD* DO, BUT I DIDN'T...I DON'T THINK I EVER REALIZED IT WASN'T *OPTIONAL*, Y'KNOW?

YOU *INSPIRE* PEOPLE AS SPIDEY *AND* AS *PETER PARKER.*

IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A *BURDEN*, PETER.

I MEAN, LOOK AT *JONAH.* HE'S NOT HERE 'CAUSE OF *SPIDER-MAN...*

...HE'S HERE 'CAUSE OF *PETER.* YOU'VE GOT *FRIENDS* WHO HAVE YOUR BACK...

...YOU HAVE A *SISTER* WHO HAS YOUR BACK NOW...

HEH... "SISTER." I *DO* LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT...

CAN'T WAIT FOR THIS TO BE DONE SO I CAN GIVE YOU YOUR "WHEATCAKE INITIAT ION" WITH AUNT--

ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE...

...WE'RE *HERE...*

SHKWHRRR

...THE SUB-BASEMENT OF THE BAXTER BUILDING.

SPIDER-MAN! WE THOUGHT YOU WERE--

YEAH, SORRY, T'CHALLA, WE TOOK THE LONG WAY HOME...

ANOTHER BOT? I GOT HIM.

...BUT I THINK WE GOT THE SOLUTION.

HM. AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

I... DON'T KNOW.

IT WAS GIVEN TO US BY THE VEDOMI SCOUT IN THE PAST BEFORE HE SHORT-CIRCUITED.

WELL, IRONHEART HAS MANAGED TO DECODE THE VEDOMI'S LANGUAGE, SO MAYBE WE CAN FIGURE IT OUT.

...IS THIS EVERYONE LEFT?

VARIOUS AVENGERS HAVE BEEN COMING AND GOING IN WAVES TO PROTECT CITIZENS AND FIND NEW WAYS TO STOP THE VEDOMI.

WE DISCOVERED, AT LEAST, A DELAYING TACTIC TO KEEP THEM FROM FINISHING THEIR MISSION.

OH, YEAH? WHAT'S THAT?

IT MAY SOUND COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE, BUT WE'VE BEEN RAPIDLY CREATING NEW ARTIFICIAL-INTELLIGENCE-BASED MACHINES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

INFECTING PHONES AND COMPUTERS WITH INDIVIDUAL A.I.s, GIVING THE VEDOMI MORE TO CAPTURE BEFORE THEY WIPE OUT THE HUMANS.

HUH. THAT'S NOT BAD, ACTUALLY...

HEY, CLINT. I-- WHOA...WHAT... WHAT'S--

YEAH. THE CALL OF THE VEDOMI HAS BEEN PRETTY INTENSE...

...WE'VE HAD TO *SECURE* AS MANY OF OUR A.I. PALS AS WE COULD.

I REALLY HOPE WHATEVER YOU BROUGHT BACK WILL STOP THIS.

YEAH, ME TOO...

OKAY. I THINK WE KNOW WHAT THIS DEVICE *IS*...

...THE *VEDOMI* OPERATE *INDIVIDUALLY*, BUT THEY RETAIN A *LINK* THROUGH A *SINGLE CONSCIOUSNESS* THAT CONTROLS THEIR SHIP AND MISSION: *THE CORE.*

THIS DEVICE IS A FAIL-SAFE DESIGNED BY THE *VEDOMI SCOUT.* IF INTRODUCED INTO *THE CORE,* IT WILL OVERRIDE THEIR DIRECTIVE, CONVINCING THE *SHIP* AND ITS *INHABITANTS* THAT THERE IS NOTHING HERE FOR THEM: NO HUMANS, NO ROBOTS, JUST A BARREN WORLD.

OKAY, *GREAT.* NOW WE JUST NEED TO GET ONBOARD AND GIVE THE SHIP ITS *PILL.*

IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.

THE *CAPSULE* NEEDS TO BE INTRODUCED VIA A *CONSCIOUSNESS.* A BIOLOGICAL HOST WHO CAN OVERRIDE *THE CORE'S* INTERNAL PROGRAMMING.

IT NEEDS SOMEONE TO *TELL* IT WHAT TO DO.

I--AND HOW DO WE INTRODUCE THE *CAPSULE* TO A PERSON?

IT APPEARS TO BE AS SIMPLE AS *CRACKING* THE SHELL *OPEN.* WE'LL NEED TO DETERMINE WHO CAN BEST--

CRAK

--SPIDER-MAN! WHAT ARE YOU--

THIS IS *MY* FIGHT, GUYS. AND WE'VE WASTED *ENOUGH* TIME--

BUT WE DON'T KNOW *HOW* IT WILL AFFECT YOU--

--OR IF YOU CAN EVEN COME *BACK* FROM--

HK!

NO!

SON! CAN YOU HEAR ME?!

HK! HK!

WAKE UP! COME ON!

THE READINGS SHOW...

...NO LIFE SIGNS.

SPIDER-MAN...

...IS DEAD.

SPIDER-MAN'S BACK.

JUST GOT WORD. AND THAT MEANS YOUR WHOLE "PLAN" IS ABOUT TO BE UNDONE, *PHINEAS.*

WHICH, OF COURSE, MEANS *YOUR* TIME IS ALMOST *UP.* THIS IS YOUR *LAST CHANCE* TO GIVE US INFORMATION ON HOW TO STOP THE *VEDOMI.*

'CAUSE WHEN EVERYTHING IS BACK UP AND RUNNING? AND YOU *DIDN'T* HELP?

THAT'S *LIFE* IN PRISON FOR THE *"TINKERER."*

SPIDER-MAN...

...I *WAS* GOING TO SIMPLY *WAIT* FOR OUR *GUESTS* TO CLAIM ME AT THE END...

BUT, AS YOU *KNOW, AGENT MINTZ, SPIDER-MAN* IS ALWAYS A *PROBLEM...*

YOU. THE *GIRL.*

THE *GIRL* IN THE STATE-OF-THE-ART *ARMOR,* THANKS.

YES, THE *ARMOR.* I JUST ASSUMED YOU USED AN A.I. TO HELP OPERATE THAT UNIMPRESSIVE *MACHINE,* BUT IF *THAT* WERE THE CASE...

MOVED THE A.I. "OFF-SUIT" THE MOMENT WE REALIZED WHAT WAS HAPPENING. I MAY BE *NEW* TO THIS, BUT I'M NOT STUPID.

HM, YES, CLEVER. THOUGH ONE OF THE GREAT THINGS ABOUT A.I. OPERATING SYSTEMS...

...IS THAT THEY ACT AS *WONDERFUL* SECURITY AGAINST HACKS...

W-
WHAT--

ZZT

NO!!!

SZHFOOOM

NGH!

OH
DEAR.

LOOKS
LIKE I HAVE
MY VERY OWN
IRON GIRL.

I CAN'T--
CAN'T MOVE--
I--

DON'T
WORRY. I
WON'T NEED
YOU FOR
LONG...

...I JUST
NEED A
LIFT...

...HE'S A HERO...

JONAH... YOU HAVE TO KNOW THIS BY NOW...

TH-THIS CAN'T END LIKE...

HE'S... HE'S SO STUPID! WHY DID HE DO THAT?! WHY--

...COME ON...

HHHHHH!!!

OH, THANK GOD! W-WHAT--

TH-THE CAPSULE... IT'S INSIDE ME, RE-RE-WIRING EVERYTHING.

G-GAVE ME A H-HARD REBOOT.

SPIDER-MAN. WILL THIS WORK?

I--YEAH. I HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION IN MY BRAIN...I KNOW WHERE TO GO--WHAT TO DO--MY MIND...

IT'S LIKE... A COMPUTER. I CAN ACCESS EVERYTHING...

...ALL MY MEMORIES... AT ONCE...IT'S SO MUCH, TERESA...

THINGS I'VE LONG FORGOTTEN...

I...I SEE OUR PARENTS.

EVERY-- EVERY TIME THEY SAID, "I LOVE YOU"... EVERY S-SMILE...

EVERY-- EVERY MOMENT WITH MY-- OUR DAD--

IT'S-- IT'S TOO MUCH--ALL THE MEMORIES AT ONCE-- I--

LISTEN TO ME--

--USE THIS. DON'T FIGHT IT.

LET YOURSELF FEEL THIS. LET YOURSELF SEE ALL THE PEOPLE YOU'VE LOVED...

...AND HOW YOU NEED TO SAVE THEM.

Y-YOU'RE RIGHT. THIS... THING INSIDE ME...I CAN SEE EVERYTHING...

...I CAN DO ANYTHING...

...SO LET'S GET ME TO THAT SHIP.

ALL RIGHT, IF WE DO THIS FAST--

--I CAN FLY YOU CLOSE ENOUGH TO WEB THE REST OF THE WAY--

DON'T THINK I'LL NEED THAT. THIS...THING INSIDE OF ME...IT'S...IN MY BONES...MY MUSCLES...

JUST, DO ME A FAVOR, OKAY? I...THE CAPSULE SHOWED ME THAT...THAT...

...TAKE CARE, GUYS.

HE MADE IT...

JONAH? WHERE ARE--

I KNOW WHAT I NEED TO DO.

THE CORE...THE TEMPERATURES ARE GOING TO... WELL...

I'M...I'M NOT COMING BACK FROM THIS.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF. OF JONAH.

AND GO MEET YOUR AUNT MAY. YOU GUYS...YOU GUYS ARE GOING TO LOVE EACH OTHER...

OKAY, SPIDEY. JUST NEED TO GET TO *THE CORE*.

SNEAKING SHOULD BE *EASY* SINCE *THE CAPSULE* IS HIDING ME FROM *SENSORS*...

...AND IT'S *HEIGHTENED MY SPIDER-SENSE*, APPARENTLY.

OW

HOPEFULLY, THAT MAKES UP FOR THE FACT THAT IT'S MAKING ME *LIGHT UP* LIKE THE "*HUMAN*" *TORCH!*

SHWEEP

THESE *ROBOTS* CAN STILL I.D. ME *VISUALLY*.

OKAY...*BACK* TO *BUSINESS*.

WOW

OKAY, SPIDEY. IT'S...IT'S BEEN A GOOD LIFE.

TIME TO SAVE THE WORLD.

SPIDER.

SPIDER.

SPIDER.

NO NO NO...

WELCOME TO OUR NEW HOME.

To be continued...

MARVEL LEGACY

DON'T MISS

PETER PARKER: THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #307

LET US KNOW HOW WE'RE DOING! Send e-mail to **SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** (please mark **"OKAY TO PRINT"**).

ZONE